A Study of Organisation in Chaos (review)*.—The importance of choice of organisms in biological research is surely well illustrated by the prominence of the Acrasiales in developmental research today. Twenty years ago these organisms were little other than curiosities for the taxonomist or phylogenist. Now their place is assured in developmental studies and their relation to other organisms better understood. Professor Bonner has happily seized on this moment to sum up present knowledge in this small biological monograph of the group.

In his first short chapter on aggregation organisms he most interestingly reviews the relationships of the various groups which have been lumped together at one time or another to constitute the Myxomycetes. Then follows fifty-two pages of review of the Acrasiales, what is known of them and what is not. The third and fourth chapters consider in more detail the two major aspects which have attracted experimentalists, the problems of morphogenetic movement and variation and differentiation. Two bibliographies, the one on the Acrasiales, the other on other organisms, complete the book.

The outstanding features of the text are clarity and liveliness, with numerous suggestions for future lines of work. The illustrations and photographs are excellent and the production of the volume pleasing.

D. M. HENDERSON.

* The Cellular Slime Molds, by John Tyler Bonner. Princeton, University Press. London, Oxford University Press. 1959. Pp. viii + 150, 8 plates and 15 text figures. Price: 32s